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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re U.S. Patent Application: Naim Istephanous	)	Before the Examiner: Bruce Edward Snow
Application No. 10/781,595	)	Group Art Unit: 3738
Filed: February 18, 2004	)	Our Ref.: MSDI-500 /PC777.00
IMPLANTS BASED ON ENGINEERED METAL MATRIX COMPOSITE MATERIALS HAVING ENHANCED IMAGING AND WEAR RESISTANCE	)	June 11, 2007

RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

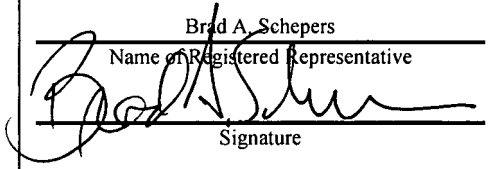
Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated March 12, 2007, please consider the following amendments and remarks. Additionally, please charge any additional fees which may be necessary to Deposit Account No. 12-2424, but not to include any payment of issue or publication fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

June 11, 2007
Date of Deposit

Brad A. Schepers
Name of Registered Representative



Signature

June 11, 2007
Date of Signature

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 1-96 were pending in the subject application for the non-final Office Action dated March 12, 2007. Claims 19, 34-43, 46-48 and 65-96 have been withdrawn from consideration from the subject application. Claims 1-18, 21-28, 44-58 and 64 have been rejected on various grounds. Claims 20, 29-33 and 59-63 have been objected to, but have been indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 26 and 27 were also indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form and amended to overcome an informality. In view of the following amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are hereby requested.